

Spiritual Partners

Part Two: Keeping Your Partner



A talk by

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First Principle:
Understand why things fall apart.

།ཟག་བཅས་ཟག་པ་མེད་ཚོས་རྣམས།
།ལམ་མ་གཏོགས་པའི་འདུས་བྱས་རྣམས།
།ཟག་བཅས་གང་སྤྱིར་དེ་དག་ལ།
།ཟག་རྣམས་ཀུན་ཏུ་རྒྱས་པར་འགྱུར།

*from The Treasure House of Higher Knowledge,
written in India 17 centuries ago:*

Everything we do
Is either stained or pure.

Everything that begins
Is stained,
And therefore ends—
Unless we use the path.

**Second Principle:
Stop trying things that don't work.**

अनित्याशुचिदुःखानात्मसु नित्यशुचिसुखात्मख्यातिरविद्या ॥५॥

*from The Yoga Sutra,
written in India about 18 centuries ago:*

II.5 In ignorance we misunderstand our world:
things that cannot last,
things which are unclean, and painful,
and which are not themselves;
seem to us as if they will last,
and as if they are clean,
and pleasant, and very much themselves.

**Third principle:
Garden away the problems.**

གང་གི་ཚོ་ག་ལི་རྒྱའི་རྒྱལ་པོས་ངའི་ཡན་ལག་དང་། ཉིང་ལག་རྣམ་པར་བཅད་པར་གྱུར་པ་དེའི་
ཚོང་ལ་གང་ཟག་ཏུ་འདུ་ཤེས་གྲང་མ་བྱུང་། དེ་ཅིའི་སྲིར་ཞེ་ན། རབ་འབྱོར། གལ་ཏེ་
དེའི་ཚོ་བདག་ཏུ་འདུ་ཤེས་བྱུང་ན། དེའི་ཚོ་གཞོན་སེམས་ཀྱི་འདུ་ཤེས་གྲང་འབྱུང་ལ།

*from The Diamond Cutter Sutra,
spoken by the Buddha 2,500 years ago:*

The King of Kalingka was cutting off my fingers, and even my arms.

But it never occurred to me to think of him as him.

Why? Well, Subhuti, if I had thought of him as him,
then I would have gotten . . . upset!

**Fourth Principle:
Find a higher kind of love.**

མཁུ་ཡང་བདག་གཅེས་འཛིན་གྱི་སྐྱོན་དང་། གཞན་གཅེས་འཛིན་གྱི་ཡོན་ཏན་སྐོ་དུ་མ་
ནས་བསམས་ལ། བདག་གཞན་མཉམ་པ་དང་། བདག་གཞན་བཞེ་བའི་སྐོ་ལྷགས་དྲག་པོ་
བསྐྱེད་དེ། སྲུང་གྱི་ཡིད་འོང་གི་བྱམས་པ་དེ་ཉིད་ཇི་རྒྱས་སུ་བཏང་ནས་སེམས་ཅན་བདེ་བས་
ཕོངས་པ་རྣམས་ལ་དམིགས་ནས་བདེ་བ་དང་ལྡན་འདོད་གྱི་བྱམས་པ་དང་།

*from Following the Path of Bliss,
written in Tibet 200 years ago:*

Now go back again, and think carefully about all the problems that come to you when you look out only for yourself; and about all the good things that happen when you look out for others as well.

Treat others as you treat yourself. Devote yourself to the practice of putting yourself in the other person's shoes.

Learn to look at people and think of them as if they were your own child, your only child. With this strong in mind, look at the world. Look at the world, see how little happiness is there.

Pray then that all the people in this world could be happy. Decide that you will make them happy. This is what we call Love.

Fifth Principle:
Share your life with one another.

आत्मानं च परांश्चैव यः शीघ्रं त्रातुमिच्छति ।
स चरेत्परमं गुह्यं परात्मपरिवर्तनम् ॥१२० ॥

*from A Guide to the Warrior's Way of Life,
written in India 13 centuries ago:*

Anyone who really wants
To quickly reach some shelter for
Themselves and every other being
Must exchange themselves and others;
Must carry out the very highest
Of every secret practice.